

to negotiate drug prices, lowering prices for Americans and saving taxpayers billions of dollars a year. It makes the world's most significant investment in fighting the existential threat of climate change—lowering families' utility bills, building cleaner and more resilient water systems, investing in rural communities, and leading the world to a clean energy economy.

Throughout, we have delivered on our commitment to fiscal responsibility, cutting the deficit by more than \$1.7 trillion in the first 2 years of my Administration—the largest reduction in American history. I have signed into law additional deficit reduction by finally making the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share, including with a new 15 percent minimum tax on billion-dollar corporations, many of which had been paying zero in taxes. We have also stood firm in our commitment to not raise taxes on anyone earning less than \$400,000 a year.

Now, it is time to finish the job, building on the ambitious progress we have made with new investments in America's future. My 2024 Budget is a blue-collar blueprint to rebuild America in a fiscally responsible way that leaves no one behind. The Budget continues lowering costs for families—with new measures to expand health coverage, cap prescription drug costs, invest in quality child care, build affordable housing, reduce home energy bills, make college more affordable, and more. This Budget protects and strengthens Social Security and Medicare—lifelines that tens of millions of seniors have paid into their whole lives with every paycheck so they can retire with dignity. It rejects any cuts to these programs, extends the solvency of the Medicare Trust Fund by at least 25 years, and invests in service delivery so that seniors and people with disabilities can access the benefits they have earned. This Budget also keeps growing our economy by investing in the foundation of its strength: the American people. That means helping families by providing paid family and medical leave and restoring the full Child Tax Credit, which cut child poverty in half in 2021 to the lowest level in history. It means expanding small business loans; standing up for workers and their fundamental right to organize; investing in science and innovation; expanding access to preschool; and improving pathways to community college, career-connected high schools, and other high-quality job training. It also means working hard to make our communities safer, expanding access to mental healthcare, ending cancer as we know it, and much more.

In addition, this Budget cements our commitment to confronting global challenges and keeping America safe. It outlines crucial investments to out-compete China globally and to continue support for Ukraine in the face of unprovoked Russian aggression. It also continues our work to restore Amer-

ica's global leadership—reviving key alliances and partnerships, strengthening our military, fostering democracy and human rights, protecting global health, honoring our veterans, fixing our immigration system at home, and advancing cybersecurity through implementation of the National Cybersecurity Strategy I just signed.

Importantly, my Budget does all of this while lowering deficits by nearly \$3 trillion over the next decade. We more than fully pay for these investments in our future by asking the wealthy and big corporations to pay their fair share. We propose a billionaire minimum tax, requiring the wealthiest Americans to pay at least 25 percent on all of their income, including appreciated assets—because no billionaire should ever pay a lower tax rate than a school teacher or a firefighter. This Budget also proposes quadrupling the tax on corporate stock buybacks, so companies invest more in production to improve quality and lower prices, and less in buybacks that only benefit shareholders and CEOs. This Budget closes tax loopholes for the wealthy and cracks down on tax cheats, and it once again ensures that no one earning less than \$400,000 a year will pay a penny more in new taxes, period.

Today, our Nation is at an inflection point that will determine our future for decades to come. But because of the investments that we have made, the United States of America is better positioned to lead than any Nation on Earth. The Budget reflects our values as a Nation—a Nation of good people, growing in a new age of possibilities, and standing as a beacon to the world. Together, let us put those values into practice and prove that democracy delivers as we keep building a stronger, fairer economy that leaves no one behind.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 2023.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:08 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1107. An act to direct the Secretary of State to take certain actions with respect to the labeling of the People's Republic of China as a developing country, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1154. An act to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1189. An act to require the development of a strategy to eliminate the availability to foreign adversaries of goods and technologies capable of supporting undersea cables, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 15. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2903, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Japan-United States Friendship Commission: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska and Mr. TAKANO of California.

The message also announced that pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 1903(b), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy: Mr. RUTHERFORD of Florida and Mrs. MCCLAIN of Michigan.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7455(a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Mr. WOMACK of Arkansas and Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1107. An act to direct the Secretary of State to take certain actions with respect to the labeling of the People's Republic of China as a developing country, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1154. An act to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1189. An act to require the development of a strategy to eliminate the availability to foreign adversaries of goods and technologies capable of supporting undersea cables, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-827. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the technical collection for the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (OSS-2023-0281); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-828. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on

the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13694 with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-829. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to section 1705(e)(6) of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, as amended by Section 102(g) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, a semi-annual report relative to telecommunications-related payments made to Cuba during the period from July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-830. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under section 7034(I)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (Div. K, P.L. 117-328)"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-831. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under section 7034(I)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (Div. K, P.L. 117-328)"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-832. A communication from the Interim President and CEO, Inter-American Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's FY22 Annual Performance Report (APR) and FY24 Annual Performance Plan (APP) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-833. A communication from the Director, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Labor's fiscal year 2021 Office of Workers' Compensation Programs annual report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-834. A communication from the Inspector General of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Congressional Budget Justification for fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-835. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Congressional Justification of Budget Estimates Report for fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-836. A communication from the Secretary of the Board of Governors, United States Postal Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's annual report relative to its compliance with Section 3686(c) of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-837. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the United States Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled, "Sexual Harassment in the Federal Workplace: Understanding and Addressing the Problem"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-838. A communication from the Acting Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board Annual Performance Report for FY 2022 and Annual Performance Plan for FY 2023-2024"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-839. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2022 Financial Report of the United States Government (Financial Report)"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-840. A communication from the President and CEO, Inter-American Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's FY22 Annual Performance Report (APR) and FY24 Annual Performance Plan (APP) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-841. A communication from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's fiscal year 2022 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Anti-discrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-842. A communication from the Senior Official Performing the Duties of Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Performance Plan for fiscal years 2022-2024, and the Annual Performance Report for fiscal years 2022-2024 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-843. A communication from the Agency Representative, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishing Permanent Electronic Filing for Patent Term Extension Application" (RIN0651-AD59) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 20, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-844. A communication from the Agency Representative, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Setting and Adjusting Patent Fees During Fiscal Year 2020" (RIN0651-AD31) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 20, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-845. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled "To clarify the application of the additional fees relating to certain H-1B and L petitions, and for other purposes"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-846. A communication from the Legal Advisor of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Freedom of Information and Privacy Act" (RIN0355-AA00) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 20, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-847. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Department of Justice Freedom of Information Act 2022 Litigation and Compliance Report," and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for all federal agencies' Freedom of Information Act reports; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-848. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2020 Annual Report of the National Institute of Justice"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-849. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the activities of the Department of Justice, Community Relations Service for fiscal year 2021; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Finance:

Special Report entitled "Activities of the Committee on Finance During the 117th Congress" (Rept. No. 118-4).

By Mr. WARNER, from the Select Committee on Intelligence:

Special Report entitled "Report of the Select Committee on Intelligence United States Senate covering the period of January 3, 2021 to January 3, 2023" (Rept. No. 118-5).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Nickolas Guertin, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

*Ronald T. Keohane, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Curtis R. Bass and ending with Brig. Gen. Dale R. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 21, 2023.

*Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. Bradford J. Gering, to be Lieutenant General.

*Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Masiello, to be Lieutenant General.

*Navy nomination of Rear Adm. James P. Downey, to be Vice Admiral.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination list which was printed in the RECORD on the date indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that this nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Marine Corps nomination of Daniel T. Turaj, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

By Mr. SANDERS for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

*Kalpana Kotagal, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2027.

*Moshe Z. Marvit, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring August 30, 2028.

*Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

*Jose Javier Rodriguez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

*Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2024.

*Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2027.

*Deirdre Hamilton, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2025.